

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of **STEIN et al**

Application No. Not yet Assigned

Attorney Docket No. 1025-P03582US0

Filed: Currently Herewith

For: FLUID-WORKING MACHINE AND OPERATING METHOD

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A fluid-working machine having a plurality of working chambers of cyclically changing volume, a high-pressure fluid manifold and a low-pressure fluid manifold, at least one valve linking each working chamber to each manifold, and an electronic sequencing controller means for operating said valves in timed relationship with the changing volume of each chamber, wherein the electronic sequencing controller means is arranged to operate the valves of each chamber in one of an idling mode, a partial mode in which only part of the usable volume of the chamber is used, and a full mode in which all of the usable volume of the chamber is used, and the electronic sequencing controller means is arranged to select the mode of each chamber on successive cycles so as to vary the time averaged effective flow rate of fluid through the machine.
2. (Original) A machine according to claim 1, wherein the partial mode comprises the use of only a small fraction of the usable volume of the chamber.
3. (Currently Amended) A machine according to claim 1 or 2, operable as both a pump and a motor, each chamber having five selectable modes, namely idling mode, partial motoring mode, full motoring mode, partial pumping mode and full pumping mode.